UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25271
10 February 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit the following message from H.E. Mr. Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Afonso VAN-DUNEM "MBINDA"
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 19 January 1993 from the President of the Republic of Angola addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency about the prevailing situation in Angola, requesting that this communication be circulated among the other members of the Security Council.

The Security Council, in an effort that the Angolan Government highly appreciates, has tried, within the scope of its important responsibilities of ensuring world peace and security, to contribute, with the adoption of measures, to the re-establishment of peace in Angola under the strict compliance of the Bicesse Accords.

Regrettably, the radical wing of UNITA, led by Mr. Jonas Savimbi, who is acknowledgedly and entirely responsible for the current crisis in Angola, following his refusal to unequivocally accept the election results, has disregarded, with impunity, the provisions made by the United Nations body to which you preside.

As you know, one first step that was made to solve the post-election crisis in Angola through dialogue was the Namibe meeting between the Government and UNITA, with the presence of UNAVEM II, which took place on 26 November 1992 and brought renewed hope for the conclusion of the Bicesse Accords implementation.

In keeping with a pattern of behaviour that we are now used to seeing in Mr. Jonas Savimbi - he not only does not commit himself seriously but he also fails to comply with the commitments he makes - UNITA carried out a military occupation of the towns of Uige and Negage two days after the above-mentioned meeting, thus stalling the initiatives and efforts for dialogue made by the Government and the United Nations.

In fact, after having reportedly promised that he would withdraw his troops from these two towns, which UNAVEM II and also the United States Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Jeffrey Davidow, announced on some occasions as being the minimum condition for the resuming of the agenda of the Namibe meeting, UNITA has failed to this date to keep its word. It has chosen to adopt an attitude contrary to dialogue, by prohibiting the UNITA provincial representatives from trying to solve local problems together with the government authorities, through peaceful means.

I must stress, for Your Excellency's information, that as a result of the promises made by Mr. Jonas Savimbi to Mr. Jeffrey Davidow, when the latter visited Angola last December, it was suggested that we appoint representatives from the Government so that, together with UNAVEM II, we could monitor in the field the supposed withdrawal of the UNITA forces from Uige and Negage.

A clear proof of that are the difficulties posed by UNITA for the holding of the Addis Ababa meeting between the military leaders of both sides. In principle, the goal of this meeting was to reach an agreement on the cessation of hostilities and other related questions, on which the solution of the political and social problems afflicting our country depends.

The unfolding of events demonstrates today, unequivocally, that while UNITA was trying to distract the Government and UNAVEM II with a pretense dialogue and withdrawal from Uige and Negage, it was also preparing to launch an all-out military offensive. Their objective was to try to occupy the largest number possible of provincial capitals, and in that way, be able to propose negotiations from a position of force that would allow them to demand solutions extraneous to the election results and the Bicesse Accords.

We would like the international community and in particular the Security Council to pay attention to this fact and to consider stricter and more effective measures against UNITA, in order to help the Angolan people and its elected Government to defend the democratic legality derived from the Bicesse Accords, in a spirit of absolute justice.

(Signed) Jose EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President of the
Republic of Angola